

CHAPTER X

RACE

THE usefulness of a spaniel depends firstlv. upon its breed. secondlv. upon the circumstances in which it is reared. and. thirdlv. upon the training that it receives. Unless it is well-bred we do not expect it to display the qualities of a good spaniel: but these qualities may be ruined by over-feeding or by unhealthy surroundings. and they need education for their development. So with a people of mankind. Their behaviour appears to be the result partly of racial peculiarities. partly of the climate and surroundings in which they live. and partly of culture—that is to say. partly of inborn instincts. partly of the pressure of the environment. and partly of the habits that are engendered by the social. ethical. artistic. and religious ideas of the community. Differences between one people and another may all be traced to the effects of these three influences—Race. Environment, and Culture. The difficulty is to allot national characteristics between them. to decide which of them is responsible for any particular trait. Few will deny that gipsies have a character of their own, and that they preserve some traits of this character in every country of their adoption. It is then hardly affected by a change of environment. It may be racial. but it may also be the result of culture—of religious and social ideas which have been preserved from obliteration. To distinguish between

the effects

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